MASON TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Providing public transit to Mason County and beyond since 1992!!

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Mason Transit Ridership Up

SHELTON, WA—Ridership on Mason Transit buses and Dial-A-Ride is up significantly since the first of the year, giving the transit authority a good reason to celebrate June's Ride Transit Month.

Since January, fixed route bus ridership has nearly doubled to 13,131 riders in May. Dial-A-Ride, an on-demand service, served 2,114 riders and has grown 62%. Mason Transit recently started offering online apps for Dial-A-Ride scheduling, and for bus tracking and route information.

"We have worked to make transit easier to use and more convenient," said Amy Asher, general manager of Mason Transit. "We also know that climbing gas prices have given people greater incentive to ride. Within Mason County, transit is free. That's helping a lot of families manage their budgets!"

Some of the largest growth in bus ridership has been on the Shelton to Olympia and Bremerton routes. With a gas price of $5.39 a gallon, for example, the cost of commuting the 44-mile round trip from Shelton to Olympia for the month of June adds up to $237 in gas (at 22 miles per gallon). Doing the same commute by bus costs $30 with the monthly out-of-county pass. Taking transit saves the commuter more than $200 a month.

Dial-A-Ride is a free service within Mason County that is open to anyone. The service uses smaller shuttle buses to pick up riders and take them nearly anywhere in the county. The service is scheduled ahead through the scheduling app or a phone call. People can use the service for everything from going to doctor's appointments to visiting area parks.

More information about Mason Transit's bus and Dial-A-Ride services can be found at MasonTransit.org.

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Mason Transit Authority serves the Mason County community and connects with area transit systems including Grays Harbor Transit, Intercity Transit (Thurston County), Jefferson Transit, Kitsap Transit, Squaxin Island Transit and Sound Transit, which in turn provides connections to the ferries, Amtrak and Greyhound service. ***You can go anywhere from here!*** *Mason Transit Authority is a partner in the Health & Safety Commitments Program of The American Public Transportation Association.*